

## CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

**Title of publication:** 04 (3)-001

**Other known title(s):** Not stated

**OFLC ref:** 1700390.002

**Medium:** Computer Image File

**Publisher:** Not stated

**Country of origin:** Not stated

**Language:** Not applicable

**Applicant:** Commissioner of Police

<b>Classification:</b>	Objectionable.
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**Descriptive note:** None

**Display conditions:** None

**Date of entry in Register:** 14 August 2017

**Date of direction to issue a label:** No direction to issue a label has been issued

**Date of notice of decision:** 14 August 2017

### Summary of reasons for decision:

The image is a cartoon depicting teenage characters from 'The Simpsons' television show committing sexual violence against a child character from that show. Despite the satirical nature of the image and its cartoon format, the humorous aspect is overwhelmed by its explicit, sexualised nature. The format facilitates the deliberate sexualisation of child characters. These factors heighten the sexual appeal of the image. It is clear the image is intended for the sexual arousal of adults as well as for entertainment. There is a strong likelihood of injury from the trivialisation of sexual conduct involving children and of sexual violence more generally, which is likely to have a detrimental effect on wider society. The classification of objectionable interferes with the right to freedom of expression as affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is justifiable given the high risk of injury to the public good which cannot be adequately prevented by an age restriction.